

J. Emerson, Inc.

FINE WINES & CHEESE

5716 Grove Avenue • Richmond, VA. 23226 • (804) 285-8011

Visit our website - www.jemersonfinewine.com

STORE HOURS: Mon. - Sat.: 9:00am to 8:00pm

CELEBRATING OUR 25th YEAR

APRIL 2010 NEWSLETTER

Emerson on Twitter & Facebook • New Arrivals • 2001 Barolo

Our April 2010 tasting

Please join us as we welcome:

Dr. Dirk Max Ferd. Richter



For a tasting of German wines from the Mosel.

Wednesday, April 28, 5:30pm to 7:30pm at our Store on Grove Ave.

*A list of wines will be posted in the store and there will be special pricing for purchases made during the tasting.
(You may remember the wonderful 1981 Richter Riesling that we offered around Thanksgiving)*

TAX DAY BEER TASTING

Thursday, April 15th, 5:30 to 7:30pm

Sam Smith Brewery

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, England

MONTHLY SPECIALS

	<u>April '10</u>	<u>USUAL</u>	<u>CASE</u>	<u>(cs.btl. cost)</u>
*2007 BASTIDE de BEAUVERT Cotes du Rhone Rouge (Rhone, FR)	\$ 8.95	\$10.95	\$95	(\$7.92)
*2008 DOMAINE de la POCHE Sauvignon Blanc (Gascogne, France)	\$ 8.95	\$10.95	\$95	(\$7.92)
*2005 BURGO VIEJO Crianza (Rioja, Spain)	\$ 8.95	\$10.95	\$95	(\$7.92)
*2008 WILHELM WALCH "Prendo" Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige, Italy)	\$ 9.95	\$11.95	\$110	(\$9.17)
2008 FATTORIA BIBBIANI "Poggio Vignoso" Chianti (Tuscany, Italy)	\$ 9.95	\$11.95	\$110	(\$9.17)
2008 UVAGGIO Vermentino (Lodi, California)	\$10.95	\$12.95	\$115	(\$9.58)
NV Ch. GAILLARD "Cuvee Charlette Voyant" Sparkling (Touraine)	\$11.95	\$13.95	\$125	(\$10.42)
2007 CALDARO Lagrein (Alto Adige, Italy)	\$14.95	\$16.95	\$155	(\$12.91)

A NOTE ABOUT THE MONTHLY SPECIALS CASE:

The **APRIL** case price is **\$105.95** and is **reduced 28%** from the regular prices. Here is the line-up and as always, there are 2 each of the first four wines (*) and 1 each of the last four wines.

***2007 BASTIDE de BEAUVERT** - Very fragrant, with aromas of red fruit with hints of black pepper, cinnamon and earth. Medium-bodied and silky in the mouth with firm, long lasting tannins

***2008 DOMAINE de la POCHE** - "Domaine de la Pouche is a 125 hectare vineyard located in the heart of the Gascogne region, not far from the city of Toulouse in South West France. Pale yellow color, expressive flavors of tropical fruits, citrus together with hints of box tree and blackcurrant. Intensely fruity at first, this wine softens to a round and fresh finish." – winery notes

***2005 BURGO VIEJO Crianza Rioja**- 90% Tempranillo & 10% Graciano - fermented in stainless steel and aged in American oak barrels for 12 months this red ruby colored wine has violet tones; black fruit, vanilla and coconut flavors. Powerful, complex and silky smooth. An incredible price for a quality Rioja Crianza.

***2008 WILHELM WALCH –“Prendo” Pinot Grigio-** A very aromatic fruit bouquet with subtle herbal overtones. On the palate it shows layers of fruit with a fresh, crisp long finish. Partial malolactic fermentation adds a bit of richness on the palate.

2008 UVAGGIO Vermentino – “bursting with fruit like a slice of juicy pear and with quite enough acidity to make it a good drink without food. Unlike most Cal-Ital varietals, which seem to bear pretty little relationship to the Italian prototype, one mouthful of this was enough to remind me of a lunch in Liguria” – *Jancis Robinson*

2008 FATTORIA BIBBIANI "Poggio Vignoso" – A classic, all estate grown Chianti blend of 75% Sangiovese, 25% Canaiolo and Malvasia, Poggio Vignoso is a simple, straightforward food wine that can be enjoyed with virtually anything. Firm, and balanced, with intense dried cherries and floral notes.

NV Ch. GAILLARD "Cuvee Charlette Voyant"- Here is an estate grown Chenin/Chardonnay sparkling wine that is fresh and light - a perfect aperitif and an alternative to the usual prosecco.

2007 CALDARO Lagrein- (100% Lagrein) deep cherry ruby color with a powerful bouquet that has strong jammy accents mingled with smoke and considerable sandalwood spice; fruit driven, with berry fruit and acidity that flow into a fairly sweet tannic finish... great with roasts and stews.

BRAVE NEW WORLD OF SOCIAL MEDIA

While we generally need to be threatened with wines from Trader Joe's before we'll embrace a new technology; we have recently been active, thanks to Matt, on both Facebook and Twitter. ([click here](#) to visit us on Twitter). It is apparently good to have lots of “fans” on Facebook and, since we are not above bribing people to be our friends, we have decided to have a drawing from amongst just our Facebook fans with the winner receiving a \$50.00 gift certificate. The drawing will take place on April 30th.so [Click here to visit our Facebook Fan Page](#) and sign on as fan and you'll have a chance to win.

QUANTITY Vs. QUALITY

Some interesting statistics on the production of various wine “brands. We forget just how HUGE some of the production is on these wines:

Kim Crawford: 344,000 cases per year (over 1,000 acres of vines).

Ménage a Trois: 1,325,000 cases per year (3,978 acres of vines)

Ch St Michelle: 1,284,000 cases per year (3855 acres of vines)

Barefoot Cellars – 7,500,000 cases (OK, that just wrong)

Some of these wines are produced in facilities that look like oil refineries (google images of Bronco wine co.). Compare the above production with a few of the wines on our monthly specials list (which we think of as big production wines): Ch. GAILLARD about 6,400 cases; FATTORIA BIBBIANI "Poggio Vignoso" about 16,000 cases; and BURGO VIEJO Crianza Rioja about 164,000 cases. While high quality and large quantity are not necessarily mutually exclusive, there is a point where something has to give.

NEW ARRIVALS – *Big Napa Cabs and Sexy Sancerre*

2007 Plumpjack Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Oakville, Napa, California –“The 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate is a 100% Cabernet Sauvignon cuvee from Plumpjack’s Oakville ranch, where Nils Venge once made the famed Cabernet Sauvignons under the Villa Mt. Eden label. (The 1974s and 1978s are still going strong.) Floral notes intermixed with creme de cassis, white chocolate, plum, and licorice characteristics are followed by a wine with supple tannins, fabulous concentration, a multilayered mouthfeel, and a finish that lasts 40+ seconds. This incredible Cabernet can be drunk now or cellared for 20-25 years. Winemaker Tony Biagia continues to fashion prodigious wines for both the Getty family and its partner, San Francisco’s mayor, Gavin Newsom. The 2007s are the most impressive group of wines Plumpjack has released to date.” (WA # 186)

2007 Orin Swift Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon “Mercury Head” Napa, California – “The brilliant 2007 Mercury Head exhibits a dense ruby/purple hue as well as classic notes of lead pencil, creme de cassis, black cherries, spice box, and cedar. Full-bodied, concentrated, deep, and layered, this impressive, but youthful, primary Cabernet needs 2-5 years of aging, and it should last for two decades.” (WA# 186)

2008 Gerard Boulay Sancerre Clos de Beaujeu – We love Sancerre and here is a single vineyard offering from Gerard Boulay. This family's domaine of 9ha located in Chavignol can trace its history back to 1380 when land records for that year mention a Jean Boulay as owner of vineyards in Chavignol. At the time, the Clos de Beaujeu in Chavignol was already known for the quality of its white wine which is remarkable since Sancerre

was known as a red wine area until after phylloxera. In the 14th century the Clos de Beaujeu supplied the Cathedral of Bourges with white wine. Clos de Beaujeu is a single vineyard of about 1.8 acres (compare that with some of the figures above.) Here is a review from Stephan Tanzer: “Sexy aromas of white flowers, mace, pear and Meyer lemon. Offers a suave blend of fleshy orchard fruits and nervier citrus elements, with strong mineral cut and building floral character. The minerality defines the long, sappy, focused finish, which leaves spice and talc notes behind. I really like this wine's marriage of volume and vibrancy. (IWC, Mar/Apr 10) **\$40.95**

2001 BAROLO

2001 was a tremendous vintage (capping off a string of great vintages from Piedmont) these are getting harder and harder to find on retail shelves. Here are a few that you can buy and start drinking in 2011:

2001 Vietti Barolo Brunate, Piedmont, Italy – “The 2001 Barolo Brunate presents a nose of toasted oak, spices, and minerals. It is quite round and soft-textured, with flavors of rich dark stewed fruit and licorice, closing with a very long, exquisite finish. I typically find the oak a bit overwhelming when this wine is young, but in my experience it tends to integrate with a few years of cellaring. It is a delicious Barolo. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2019.” Wine Advocate # 167 **\$99.95**

2001 Vietti Barolo Lazzarito Piedmont, Italy – “The 2001 Barolo Lazzarito is the darkest of these wines. It opens with a penetrating nose of toasted oak, cherries in liqueur, menthol, minerals and tar. The Lazzarito is a beautifully conceived wine that combines dark, backward Serralunga fruit and a very modern approach into a convincing whole, with excellent length and persistence on the palate. There is noticeably more extract in the fruit here to support the oak. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2019.” Wine Advocate # 167 **\$99.95**

2001 Bruno Giacosa Barolo Falletto, Piedmont, Italy – “The 2001 Barolo Falletto displays a more deeply colored, rich translucent ruby color. It opens with a sweet, balsamic nose of spices, oak, and minerals, and is packed with layers of deep, dark fruit that gradually open to reveal themselves on a big, strapping frame, with outstanding length and a beautiful note of freshness to cap off the finish. An Azienda Agricola Falletto di Bruno Giacosa bottling. Anticipated maturity: 2011-2023”. Wine Advocate # 167 **\$119.95**

2001 Ca' Rome Di Romano Marengo Barolo 'Vigna Cerretta' – “Very complex aromas with coffee, plum and Indian spices. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a long, long finish. Loads of ripe fruit and character here. Very fine indeed. Excellent wine from here. Best after 2007. 300 cases made” Issue: Oct 15, 2005 **\$79.95**

SATURDAY WINE TASTING

Every Saturday between 2pm and closing we will offer wines to taste and enjoy while shopping. Check out our web site on Friday to find out what we will be opening!

OUR OWN EMERSON LATE BOTTLE VINTAGE PORT TRUFFLES – \$4.95 and \$5.49